



John E. Robson

(1930 – 2002)

*J*ohn E. Robson was Ex-Im Bank's chairman and president from May 2001 until his death on March 20, 2002. Mr. Robson served four presidents "with dedication and honor" and "set an example of distinguished public service," President George W. Bush said.

Mr. Robson was appointed to Ex-Im Bank by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. He presided over Ex-Im Bank's operations through the events of Sept. 11, 2001, and the global trade downturn of late 2001. Under his leadership, the Bank continued to play an integral role in the Bush Administration's trade policy.

Mr. Robson's government service also included appointments as deputy secretary of the Treasury under former President George H.W. Bush, and as chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Board, where he initiated airline deregulation, under former President Gerald

R. Ford. He also served the late President Lyndon B. Johnson as undersecretary of Transportation.

In the private sector, Mr. Robson had been an investment banker and senior advisor with the San Francisco firm of Robertson Stephens. Earlier, he had been president and CEO of G.D. Searle & Co. He had also served as dean and a professor of Emory University's Goizueta Business School and had been a partner in the law firm of Sidley and Austin.

"John was a strong leader who was committed to making a positive mark on any organization in which he served," Vice President Dick Cheney said. The memory of John Robson's dedication to public service and commitment to excellence in government will continue to inspire Ex-Im Bank and other federal trade agencies.